



Enid Porter with an addition to the Cambridge and County Folk Museum

123.42

Cambridge MUSEUMS Chronicle

1897

1897 08 19

Sometime in the course of Tuesday night a desperately determined attempt was made to obtain entrance to the Fitzwilliam Museum which in its invaluable pictures, its gems, and its magnificent collection of articles of ancient and modern art would, if successfully broken into, yield a rich harvest to intelligent burglars. A place so full of objects of art and interest is of course well-guarded, and well prepared for the visits of disciples of Bill Sykes. So the unwelcome ones found who made the attempt on Tuesday night, for after trying two doors and five windows, and using no small amount of violence they had to relinquish their efforts and go empty away. So far as we have been able to gather this is the first attempt which has been made to forcibly break into the Museum in the course of its history

1897 08 19

1905

1905 01 06

Cambridge rating committee considered the University's Sedgwick Geological Museum. As it was a memorial and not a commercial speculation some difficulties arose. It had cost more than required for business purposes with materials of the very best character, thicker walls and a good deal of superfluous work. There could be no other tenant. The land had been purchased from Downing College at an exorbitant rate - £6,800 per acre. Then there were the specimen cases, should they be considered in the valuation. A museum without cases was no more a museum than a factory was complete without its machinery. 05 01 06

1907

1907 06 20

An extraordinary University report recommends the Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum should be present at least three hours a day when it was open, keeping a diary recording his hours to be placed before the Syndicate. It was an indignity - but all other professors had to make similar returns. His salary should be decreased from £300 to £250 and the money used to pay for another member of staff. This valued his time at seven-and-sixpence an hour compared to ten shillings for an Assistant 07 06 20

1908

1908 05 13

Fitzwilliam Museum statue of Duke of Devonshire unveiled – 08 05 13

1910

1910 05 20

The foundation stone of the first block of the new Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at the corner of Downing Street and Tennis Court Road was laid by the Baroness Von Hugel whose husband is the curator. The ceremony was a very quiet one and the proceedings were very brief because of the death of the King. In a cavity under the stone was placed a bottle containing a couple of newspapers and a number of current coins of the realm. 10 05 20

1910 12 09a

Two undergraduates were charged with stealing three surveying instruments, the property of Professor McKenny Hughes, curator of the University Geological Museum. A glass case had been broken open and two instruments taken. They had later been found in the students' pockets and their fingerprints were on the glass. The lads said "We had a bet of £5 that some instruments could not be got". The Professor told the court he wished to offer no evidence: it was a matter that could be dealt with by the Vice Chancellor 10 12 09a

1911

1911 01 20

Undergraduates charged theft from Geological Museum – 11 01 20i & 20j

1914 02 27

The Financial Board have been negotiating with the Master and Fellows of Peterhouse for the purchase of the site, nearly two acres, adjoining the Fitzwilliam Museum known as Grove Lodge, and they now recommend its purchase for £12,000. They further suggest that only one-half of this sum be taken from the Marlay bequest of £80,000 the balance being charged to the fund from the sale of Mr. Marlay's house, known as St. Katharine's Lodge, Regent's Park. 14 02 27 CIPof

1914

1914 06 04

W.B. Redfarn's Milton Hall museum includes gloves worn by Cromwell and King Charles II, Cromwell's snuff box & spectacles and pieces of armour from every century 14 06 04 p7

1924

Fitzwilliam Museum Marlay Galleries open : Charles Brinsley Marlay, d 1912, greatest benefactor since foundation; Grove Lodge property adjacent Fitzwilliam purchased from Peterhouse & extension built [62 06 14]

1928

1928 08 15

Cambridge University has lost yet another distinguished son, by the death of Baron von Hugel, founder of the University Catholic Association. In 1883 he was appointed curator of the Museum of

Archaeology, to which he had presented a unique collection of Fiji war instruments. Then commenced a period of service which will never be forgotten. He raised the money required for a new building and played a prominent part in the collection of local antiques, carrying out extensive excavations at Girton. During the War the Baron took charge of the Belgian refugees in Cambridge and received a medal. 28 08 15

1931

1931 04

Fitzwilliam Museum Courtauld gallery opened [31 04 RevYr]

1932

1932 07 15

The visit of Her Majesty, Queen Mary, was kept a close secret and her car was temporarily held up near Northampton Street traffic lights. But the news quickly spread. Later she visited the Fitzwilliam Museum where she consented to be photographed under the picture of Cambridge that she had presented. 32 07 15g

1932 08 26

Residents in Little St Mary's Lane narrowly escaped injury when the chimney-stack of the Museum of Classical Archaeology was struck by lightning. Its extensive double glass roof was completely wrecked and two plaster casts of classical figures were slightly damaged. One brick struck the floor with such force that it rebounded on to the base of a model, which it chipped. 32 08 26i

1933

1933 09 14

Sir – in my old curiosity shop in Trumpington Street I have formed a museum of prison, punishment and other interesting relics, many of which have come from our old Cambridge prisons. They include the clothes, mask, pistol and spurs of Dick Turpin which were left at the Three Tuns Inn, Castle Hill, on the eve of January 12th 1739. I would welcome any items connected with village punishment or an old police uniform with the beaver top hat – E. Rutter 33 09 14

1934

1934 01 06

Mr E. Rutter of the 'Olde Curiosity Shoppe', Trumpington Street, has purchased a razor which belonged to King George III. It will be added to his other 200 interesting relics that include a Bible dated 1633 which has covers worked in needlework by King Charles I's wife and a pair of very fine silk stockings bearing the royal crown, which were worn by Queen Victoria. He also has a warrant issued by Oliver Cromwell and a cockade worn by Lord Nelson. He attempted to buy the Eton flogging book but that sold for the remarkable sum of £450. 34 01 06

1934 06 30

Two of W.B. Redfern's collection of Cromwellian relics have returned to Cambridge. A pair of grey gauntlets and a pair of spectacles in their original fish skin case which belonged to Oliver Cromwell were purchased by Edwin Rutter and added to his museum at the Old Curiosity Shop on Trumpington Street. 34 06 30 [34 06 30 TT, 34 11 17]

1934 11 03

Councillor Peck suggests Folk Museum [34 11 03 TT]

1934 11 16

Oliver Cromwell's hat is to stay in Cambridge. When put up for auction last April it was withdrawn at £25. But now it has been purchased by Mr E. Rutter of Ye Olde Curiosity Shop and Museum, Trumpington Street. The hat has a very large flat brim and tapering crown. It has been handed down through several generations of the Constable family who ran a very old established hat maker's

business where Cromwell left the hat when he was up at Sidney Sussex College. It will be placed alongside other Cromwell relics including his gauntlet gloves and spectacles. 34 11 17c

1934 Scott Polar Research Institute opened 34 11 16

1935

1935 10 28

A folk museum may be established in the old White Horse Inn following a meeting called by Cambridge Rotary Club. It should be a town and county museum for objects of local interest. Dr Palmer offered some of the items which had accumulated in the attic of a house where his ancestors had lived for 300 years. This was only the beginning: the ideal folk museum should be in the open, a space in which old cottages, smithies, a windmill and other things could be shown. 35 10 28 & a

1936

1936 05 09

Fitzwilliam Museum extension to open [36 05 09 TT]

1936 09 23

The new Folk Museum which is to be opened in Cambridge shortly will not be filled with glass cases containing stuffed birds. The rooms will be authentically furnished – one visitor to the bar-parlour even asked for a pint of bitter. It was unfortunate that the front of the old White Horse Inn had been modernised 25 years ago, but interesting old beams were revealed after the interior walls had been stripped of many layers of paper. A modern fireplace had been removed and electricity installed. They now need everyday objects, craftsmen's tools, toys and an old smock, Mr Saville Peck told Rotarians. 36 09 23

1936 10 07

Folk Museum receive toll board from cottage at Clayhithe – 36 10 07

1936 11 04

The Cambridge and County Folk Museum at the old 'White Horse Inn' was opened in the presence of a large company. It would become a clearing house of information on local matters in a town where there is more information about Papua than Pampisford. The Corporation had handed over its old measures, the steelyard used at Stourbridge Fair and the High Constable's stave while the Public Library had loaned portraits and caricatures to give a human touch to the museum. Miss Catherine Parsons has accepted the position of honorary curator with Reginald Lambeth as custodian. 36 11 04b & c

1937

1937 01 30

Folk Museum disappointed about lack of interest – description – 37 01 30

1938

1938 08 17

Exhibition of historic scientific apparatus in Cavendish Laboratory – microscopes etc, steps should be taken to find permanent home – 38 08 17

1938 08 18

Queen Mary visits Folk Museum – 38 08 18

1939

1939 01 27

Queen Mary and her daughter, the Princess Royal, paid a visit to the Fitzwilliam Museum. Queen Elizabeth was also to have come, but she had a cold. 39 01 27 CIPof

1939 02 28

Folk Museum's progress, Catherine Parsons honorary curator – 39 02 28

1939 05 06

Queen Mary gives table & tea caddy to Folk Museum [39 05 06]

1939 11 21

The last Georgian bow-fronted shop window in Cambridge was at 45 Bridge Street It was saved from demolition and re-erected in the yard of the Cambridge Folk Museum by Mr E.C. Lambeth, assistant curator. It is thought that the shop was Ald Nutting's coffee house attached to the old Red Lion Inn in Bridge Street 39 11 21c

1940

1940 08 17

Folk Museum only museum open to public at present; issues pamphlet – 40 08 17a

1941

1941 04 24

Folk Museum treasures – Ald Peck talks to Women's Luncheon Club – 41 04 24

1943

1943 02 20

Folk Museum annual meeting, E. Saville Peck acting chairman, Frost's flying machine had been offered but was nowhere to store it – 43 02 20a

1945

1945 06 06

Folk Museum offered Abbey House in recognition of VE Day; was sold by Askham to Fairhaven on understanding that passed to National Trust. Abbey House bought by Lord Fairhaven from Askham family; house dilapidated & in form of three dwellings; [45 06 06 TT, 66 12 28]

1945 09 17

War-time story of the Fitzwilliam Museum; most important works of art sent to private house in Wales and bank in Cornwall, fire watching, stored blankets for Red Cross. RAF wanted a large room to install apparatus to give illusion of pilots flying – but would have caused problems; items returned after VE-Day – CDN 1945 09 17b

1946

1946 03 07

Folk Museum raises funds to accept Lord Fairhaven offer of Abbey House – 46 03 07

1946 06 13

Declaration of Trust in favour of Folk Museum in recognition of VE Day and thank-offering for deliverance from the perils of war; Folk Museum let off as three dwellings by Fairhaven to Folk Museum - CDN 1945 06 13 Abbey House – historical facts by F.A. Keynes – CDN 1945 06 15. 1973 conveyance to City council [5]

1947

1947 08 16

The annual report of the Fitzwilliam Museum begins by recording “the nine most dangerous and difficult years of its history”. The collections had to be packed and removed in 1939 to places of safety as remote as Wales and Cornwall where they remained until they could be gradually be brought back to Cambridge six years later. The Museum itself and those of its possessions too frail to be moved had meanwhile to be protected. By the Spring of 1940 the museum reopened with the first of more than 40 exhibitions arranged during the war, although deprived of all the fit younger members of

staff. By 1944 the Museum had more visitors than in 1937 or 1938. The Museum had finally to be restored to order before members of the staff away on National Service had returned. 47 08 16

1948

1948 04 24

Fitzwilliam Museum centenary, 48 04 24 p6

1950

1950 10 21

Cambridge councillors decided not to take over Abbey House and assume responsibility for its future after the Folk Museum had raised £2,000 to effect the transfer of the Museum there from the old White Horse Inn. The house contains some very fine rooms suitable for display of exhibits but would mean they had to rehouse the families now living there. There was no doubt that in ordinary time the council would have been able to take the Museum over but it could not take on anything at the present time because they are so hard up 50 10 21

1951

1951 05 08

The Whipple Museum of the History of Science was opened by the Vice Chancellor. The collection was presented to the University in 1944 and was stored in boxes in the Fitzwilliam Museum until 1948. It was at first proposed to create a museum in the former Shorts Factory on Madingley Road, but this was rendered unusable after Pye's fire. The present premises in Corn Exchange Street became available in May last year and it has at last been possible to show a large part of the collection. Amongst the guests was Mr Robert S. Whipple, the founder of the collection; the chairman Cambridge Instrument Co, he amassed extensive antiquarian collection scientific instruments & books, gave to University 1945 with money 51 05 08

1953

1953 12 15

Mr Robert Stewart Whipple has died at his home in London, at the age of 82. In 1898 he became private assistant to Horace Darwin, the founder of the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company, later becoming a joint managing director until his retirement in 1935. Noted for his studies of the history, development and manufacture of scientific instruments he presented his large and varied collection of instruments and books to the University of Cambridge. This formed the nucleus of the Whipple Museum of the History of Science that opened in 1954 53 12 15

1955

1955 05 06

A new room for exhibitions and storage of water colour paintings was opened at the Fitzwilliam Museum. It consists of a gallery and a small reference library for the benefit of serious students of art. It was largely funded by a gift of £10,000 from the executors of the late Walford Graham Robertson who was one of the greatest collectors of the work of William Blake and gave the museum six important works by him which are now on show 55 05 06a

1956

1956 08 23

The Fitzwilliam Museum which strikes visitors by the carpets on its floors and the flowers in its rooms, has now newly decorated its Lower Marlay Gallery with pastel shades of pale mauve and yellow for the ceilings and white for the walls. The museum's porcelain which used to stand on the extensive landings at the top of the stairs is now seen to better advantage. 56 08 23c

1958

1958 07 25

A little two-bedroomed cottage should be built for Enid Porter, the Curator of the Folk Museum, councillors agreed. The five-bedroomed flat they'd allocated as emergency accommodation was

condemned property; it was just a mass of corrugated iron which spoils the beauty of Northampton Street. It would be an insult to offer it to her and should be used to relieve the housing problem for a larger family 58 07 25a

1959

1959 04 25

Folk Museum objects 'thrown away' – Lambeth; Folk Museum objects discarded – 59 04 25b

1959 05 23

Dr David Diringer has established a unique Alphabet Museum in the back garden of his home in St Barnabas Road. What looks like an extra-large garden workshop contains a treasure house of the alphabets of the word and all forms of writing, the result of 35 years of research. Dr Diringer, whose subject is Semitic Epigraphy, hopes to hold seminars there in the study of alphabets and writing. 59 05 23, 59 06 10

1960s *The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date*

1960

1960 08 02

The Alphabet Museum in Dr David Diringer's St Barnabas Road garden is unique. Somewhere in the world there had to be repository devoted to all the means man has used to communicate his ideas by written language. The fact that it should be placed in a back garden of a house in an ordinary residential street is really neither surprising nor unusual. Hundreds of scholars have visited and sent specimens since it opened a year ago. One day it may expand and be adopted by the University. 60 08 02

1961

1961 12 21

Cambridge Folk Museum has been closed for the last nine months while various alterations and extensions have taken place. Several major improvements have been made as part of a programme that started four years ago. First the building was re-roofed, then a house was erected for the resident curator, Miss Enid Porter. This meant the old house at no.3 Castle Street became available for museum use. It has been redecorated, the staircases widened and a new system of oil heating installed 61 12 21a

1964

1964 03 28

Contents of Ely museum, collected by Vernon Cross in Ye Olde Tea Rooms and Museum to be auctioned. Building ransacked by Littleport Rioters in 1816. It was restored by his father in 1905 when the collection was started – photos – 64 03 28

1964 04 16

A turf-digging tool and a fork used for harvesting were among the fenland tools bought for the Folk Museum at the sale of antiquities from Vernon Cross's 'Ye Olde Tea Rooms' at Ely. The curator, Miss Enid Porter, was among the crowd of buyers. She also obtained two Doulton spirit barrels and an 18th-century digester. Plaster moulds from old Ely houses, an unusual type of frying pan and a 19th-century knife cleaner were also purchased 64 04 16

1964 06 10

Enid Porter, Folk Museum curator – profile 64 06 10

1965

1965 97 14

Folk Museum curators pay 'real scandal' - £8 per week [65 07 14]

1966

1966 07 14

Queen Mother opens Fitzwilliam Museum extension stage 1, cost £100,000 66 07 14 [66 07 16, 63 10 24]

1967

1967 05 24

Fossey brothers museum at Gt Eversden feature – 67 05 24

1968

1968 08 26

Enid Porter, Folk Museum – profile – 68 08 26

1968 10 11

Cheddars Lane sewage pumping station – fight to prevent demolition; may become museum – 68 10 11

1968 11 19

Cambridge Society for Industrial Archaeology set up to fight proposed demolition of Cheddar's Lane pumping station, built 1894; 68 11 19a

1969

1969 10 04

Cheddar's Lane pumping station; council reprieve from demolition

1969 03 19

Enid Porter 'Cambridgeshire customs and folklore' book published; review – 69 03 19b

1970

1970 05 06

Prince Charles opens £70,000 extensions Kettles Yard – 70 05 06a

1970 05 27

Sir Hamilton Kerr gives Mill House Whittlesford to Fitzwilliam Museum [70 05 27]

1970 06 12

Dr Dale has private 'black museum' – feature – 70 06 12 & a

1970 07 29

Dr Dale's black museum sold, no buyers for county gallows – 70 07 29c

1970 10 14

Cheddars Lane should be preserved and listed say Government – 70 10 14

1971

1971 04 30

Museum of Technology opens for steam weekend 71 04 30a

1972

1972 05 17

Revolution swept quietly through the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge when for the first time a modern musician accompanied the preview of an exhibition by a contemporary artist. The folk-singer, Donovan, played his guitar and sang to the predominately-young audience who had come to view the opening of a showing of sculptures by David Wynne. Sitting cross-legged on a lime-green cushion and flanked by the odd Murillo depicting a biblical scene, Donovan's presence was clearly not

part of the Fitzwilliam tradition. Donovan was one of the subjects whose heads were depicted in bronze in the exhibition, p16

1972 09 01

The Cambridge & County Folk Museum is run on a shoestring, but thanks to its indefatigable curator, Miss Enid Porter, it has become a model of what a people's museum should be - intimate, quaint and compact. That the museum so ably embraces the local community's way of life is due, undoubtedly, to the skill and reputation of its curator, who is acknowledged as an expert on East Anglian folk lore and witchcraft and is particularly renowned for her understanding of fenland. Miss Porter is a powerhouse of activity since coming to Cambridge in 1947 she has created an invaluable display of bygones and bric-a-brac. When it is remembered that she does it on £3,000 a year the scale and depth of the exhibition is nothing short of miraculous 72 09 01

1972 11 08

Michael Jaffe takes over from David Piper at Fitzwilliam [72 11 08]

1973

1973 05 03

Lord Fairhaven bequests £1.4M works art, Fitzwilliam - finest since Marlay [73 05 03]

1973 *Jim Ede leaves Cambridge giving collection to Cambridge University [3.1]*

1974

1974 01 05

One of Cambridge's finest medieval buildings, the Abbey House in Abbey Road, was formally presented to the city council as a gift from the Cambridge Folk Museum. The house was originally given to the museum in 1946 by the first Lord Fairhaven who had hoped it would be an enlarged Folk Museum. But the curator, Miss Enid Porter, said he had come to realise the building was just not suitable and the museum did not have the resources to keep the house in good repair 74 01 05

1975

1975 03 21

An appeal for £30,000 has been launched to convert the old Cheddar's Lane Pumping Station into a technology museum. The existing pumping station provides a centrepiece for the museum, representing technological developments during the 19th century. Single storey extensions with galleries to house exhibits are being built at the Riverside split-level site. A special gallery may be designed to enable children of all ages to participate in the building of working models. The museum began in 1968 when the old pumping station was replaced by an electric plant 75 03 21

1975 07 23

The Queen Mother opened the new £½-million extension of the Fitzwilliam Museum. The Royal visitor, dressed in a pale-blue turquoise coloured outfit, paused several times to smile and wave to the crowd before being introduced to Museum staff by Prof Jaffe. She had a good look at the £2½ million collection of Cambridge plate on display and after tea she was driven to a waiting helicopter on the playing fields of St John's college 75 07 23

1975 08 04

Folk Museum closed due illness curator & no deputy, (Enid retires 1976) [75 08 04]

1976

1976 07 17

At Cambridge Museum of Technology there is no indication that the old Cheddar's Lane sewage station off Newmarket Road, is now a museum. The place looks a shambles surrounded as it is by knee-high weeds and forbidding "Keep Out" signs. Go there; don't be put off by the haphazard arrangement of exhibits and ask the helpful attendants when you fail to understand. A computer in a

museum? An electron microscope – both are on display in this potentially breathtaking exhibition. I can't help but suspect that when the lease runs out the museum is going to be transformed into a profitable block of riverside flats. But I hope this does not happen 76 07 17

1976 12 07

The curator of the Cambridge Folk Museum, Miss Enid Porter, is retiring this week because of ill-health, after running it single-handed for about 29 years. At the moment she is in hospital and the museum is closed. Since she took charge of the museum in 1947 its popularity and size have grown considerably. It was started following an exhibition of folk items by the Women's Institute in 1936. Cambridge Rotarians launched an appeal for a folk museum and eventually the present premises in Castle Street were acquired. Miss Porter has been a prolific author, writing books on Cambridgeshire folklore and customs and contributing articles to regional magazines 76 12 07

1977

1977 11 09

A thief only got £5 for an original Constable – because an art dealer thought it was a poor copy of the one in the Fitzwilliam Museum across the road. But it WAS the one across the road, and the dealer only discovered that when he read about the theft in his morning paper. He dashed to his office, checked the painting and discovered it was the original. And while he was checking it the police walked in on a routine enquiry. So he handed it over. The picture was grubby and finger-marked because the thief had shopped it around five or six other dealers in Cambridge. 77 11 09

1977 11 17

Cambridge City Council is to think again about plans to sell the mid 17th-century Abbey House in Abbey Road. The Folk Museum Trustees had given the ancient house to the city council only four years ago in the hope they would look after it. Coun Warren said: "It is shameful if the council is now considering selling the house and keeping the money itself." Coun John Powley said that money to repair the property was limited and the best course would be to sell it to the person living there and let him carry out repair work costing thousands of pounds. 77 11 17

1978

1978 01 31

A recent move to sell the Abbey House, Cambridge to its long-standing tenant, retired Professor Peter Danckwerts, raised eyebrows among people who know the history of the place. It was bought for the Folk Museum by Lord Fairhaven in 1945. No endowment was made and the museum found it impossible to keep up the house. It was given to the city in 1973 and the city has found it an embarrassment ever since, spending little on repairs. But a former Mayor and chairman of the Cambridge Preservation Society threatened to take the city council to court if it was sold 78 01 31

1982

1982 07 21

One of the most unusual removal jobs has started in Cambridge. A specialist team from Leeds has been brought in to transport hundreds of plaster casts of statues from Ancient Greece and Rome ranging from a giant statue of Hercules to replicas of the Elgin marbles. They are the pride and joy of the University's Museum of Classical Archaeology which is moving from its old home in Little St Mary's Lane to a purpose-built gallery in the new Classics faculty on the Sidgwick site. 82 07 21

1984

1984 01 19

Enid Porter ran the Cambridge Folk Museum single-handed from 1947 for 30 years and the impressive collection now it now houses museum was largely as a result of her endeavour. She took the entrance money, arranged exhibitions and cleaned the museum. In 1968 she had not had a pay rise for 15 years; her wages were £8 a week at a time when comparable jobs were paying £1,500 a year. Richard Wilson, the current curator said "She was a marvellous lively woman who gave her life to the museum" 84 01 19 p6

1984 05 01

Prince Charles opened new Archaeology gallery [84 05 01]

1985

1985 03 22

Cheddars Lane museum restoration 85 03 22d

1986

1986 08 08

Museum of Technology feature – 86 07 08a

1986 12 18

Folk Museum celebrate 50th anniversary – Tom Doig – 86 12 18

1987

1987 04 25

City councillors have stepped in to stave off the shock closure of the Cambridge Folk Museum which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. They decided to give an immediate grant to help it over its financial crisis for the next six months after its curator, Tom Doig, told how it received little income and there were no private financial resources. Councillors are also rethinking proposals to treble the Museum's rent to £12,000 a year. 87 04 25

1987 09 31

Princess Margaret at Fitzwilliam Museum – 87 09 31

1988

1988 08 13

Cambridge & County Folk Museum is facing a cash crisis. Curator Tom Doig says the situation is so desperate he may have to close the 500-year-old museum in Castle Street before Christmas. The County Council has refused any funding and the City has cut its grant, meaning he can no longer afford to pay staff.. The Mayor said is it outrageous that they can't find the money to keep it going. The museum is of great importance as an educational resource and it would be a tragedy if it were to close 88 08 13, 88 08 17, 88 08 17a

1989

1989 01 27

Tom Doig has done a very good job as curator of the Cambridge and County Folk Museum for the past five years despite little encouragement and many difficulties. The little museum is a most marvellous means of encouraging a sense of community and plays a central role in teaching young people about their area. Yet it is desperately poorly financed, scandalously cramped and largely failing to exploit its potential. I hope whoever inherits Tom's unenviable task at the museum will also show his enthusiasm and refusal to be cast down by difficulties. Never before has the public been more interested and enthralled by local history. And never has the need for a dramatic re-appraisal of this very valuable museum been more needed – Christopher South 89 01 27a

1989 03 03

Jane Bone new director of Folk Museum faces challenge – 89 03 03c

1989 09 13

Scott Polar to build Polar Museum, £8M, for opening 1992 89 09 13

1990

1990 08 10

University Museum of Anthropology reopens after four years – 90 08 10c

1990 11 26

Fitzwilliam Museum given £15 million art collection by Daniel McDonald; follows £11m gift to Archaeology Dept – 90 11 26a